THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Saturday, the 25th May 1946.

The House met in the Legislative Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at eleven of the clock, Mr. Deputy President (Sri K. VENKATASWAMI NAYUDU) in the Chair.

[*Note.*—An asterisk(*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member].

I.—SWEARING IN OF MEMBERS.

MR. DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" Members who have not taken their oath yesterday will now please take the oath."

The following members took the oath of allegiance :—

(1) Sri K. Manathunainatha Desigar.

(2) ,, C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliyar.

(3) ,, O. P. Ramaswami Reddiyar.

II.—ELECTION OF PRESIDENT.

* MR. DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" The only item of business for to-day is the election of the President of the Council under section 65 (5) of the Government of India Act, 1935. We will now proceed with the election of the President of the Council. Under rule 7 (4) of the Madras Legislative Council Rules, I have first to read out to the Council the names of members who have been duly nominated for the Presidentship together with those of the proposers and seconders :—

Member nominated.	Proposer.	Seconder.
Sri R. B. Ramakrishna Raju.	**Sri T. K. Madhava Menon.**	**Sri B. Bheema Rao.**
Do.	**Sri K. Natarajan** ..	**,, N. Sankara Reddi.**

" As only one member, viz., Sri R. B. Ramakrishna Raju, has been nominated, under rule 7 (4) of the Council Rules, I declare him elected and I call upon him to occupy the President's Chair. **(Applause.)**

" It only remains for me to tender to the Hon. Sri B. Ramakrishna Raju my sincere congratulations on his election.

" Sir, you come from an ancient Kshatriya zamindari family of Karvetnagar. Yet for the cause of the country you made great sacrifices and to-day the country has amply rewarded you by making you the President of this Council. Sir, we formed a partnership in jail for mutual benefit. In jail, we were put in the same cell and we shared the rations and had common study. And least did I expect then that this partnership will continue in the Council also. As your Deputy, I can assure you of my loyal support and co-operation. If I can tell a little of the person, having observed him in close quarters, he is a great sportsman, and a good athlete.

He is a fine spinner of khadi and is very much interested in music. He is a fine Hindi scholar and a linguist. Above all, he is a God-fearing man, has an equable temper, has a fine sense of judgment and possesses very charming manners. One endowed with such qualities should certainly be a good President. I welcome you, Sir, to take the seat and request the Leader of the House, Mr. Madhava Menon, to conduct the Hon. President to the Chair with the help of Sir A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar."

The Hon. Sri R. B. Ramakrishna Raju was then conducted to the Presidential Chair by Sri K. Madhava Menon on one side and Sir A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar on the other. The Hon. Sri R. B. Ramakrishna Raju bowed before the Presidential Chair and then occupied it amid loud and continued cheers.

Sri K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Sir, permit me to congratulate you on behalf of this House and particularly on behalf of the party to which I belong, on your elevation as the President of this Council. Sir, the Deputy President has already said everything about your qualifications and we who know you intimately, certainly feel that you will be an ornament to the chair which you occupy. Sir, it is not you that we should congratulate, but we congratulate ourselves that we got you as our President. Now that you are elected as President of the Council, I am sure, though you belong or belonged to our party, whatever predilections you may have towards our party, that you will be absolutely unprejudiced and impartial in all your dealings here. May you preserve the traditions of your predecessors and build up new traditions which your successors may emulate. Wishing you all success, Sir, I congratulate you once again on your election."

* K. UPPI SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Mr. President, Sir, on behalf of the Muslim League Party, I offer our hearty congratulations and happy wishes to you on your elevation to this august position of the Presidentship of this House. You, Sir, are the guardian of the privileges and rights of this House. You are the guardian and protector of the privileges of this House and especially of the minority parties in this House. We of the Muslim League Party offer our hearty co-operation to you in the discharge of your duties and we wish you all success in your attempts to keep up the dignity of this august Chair. Sir, it is you and you alone that are the protector of the interests of the minorities of the House and we are confident that you will rise up to the occasion. We believe that you will shake off, or have already shaken off, all your party feelings when you got up on the dais to-day. We believe and we are confident that when you lay down this august office, you will not only have pass marks; you will have first class marks. With these few words, I have great pleasure in congratulating you heartily on your election."

* SIR A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, permit me to associate myself with the remarks that have fallen from the hon. the Leader of the House and my friend here. I am sure the House will be very glad, is very glad, that you have been unanimously elected to this very exalted position of the Presidentship of this Council. As has been pointed out by my friend, the

hon. the Leader of the House, I feel sure that you will, in the discharge of your duties, bring to bear all those noble qualities, to which reference has been made by the Deputy President and that you will realize that the Legislative Council, its dignity, its prestige and its usefulness are in your hands. From to-day, Sir, you belong to no party; and we look up to you, as the true Leader of the House in the sense that the privileges of this House are entirely in your hands. I do hope, also, every member of this House will vie with one another to see that in the discharge of those exalted duties to which you have been called upon to do you are given the most unstinted support and that they will exercise as much self-control as possible. I do feel sure that those who were of your party before now, will be the first to realize that the success of your Presidentship depends upon the extent to which they disentangle you from those obvious connections which you had a right to have, before your elevation to the Chair and also give you all the whole-hearted support that they could in the exercise of your duties in a manner that will command the universal confidence of this House. I am sure, Sir, although I have not had personally the privilege of knowing you, yet from all I have heard of you from my friends and my esteemed friend the late Mr. Muniswami Nayudu, with whom you were associated for quite a long time, that you would adorn this Chair and that you would make us all feel that we have in you a tower of strength in this House."

* DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Mr. President, Sir, I can speak perhaps, with greater knowledge of your personality and of your character than many others here. You are from the North, Chittoor, and I am from far away South, Trichinopoly, but fate, Sir, has brought us together for pretty nearly a year in the Central Jail at Trichinopoly where you were occupying a cell next to mine. Of all places in the world, jail perhaps is the best place where you could know the true character of men and it had been my proud privilege to be your friend, your associate and also, if I may say so, your observer. I have watched you from morning to night, and day after day for nearly a year. The love, the esteem and the admiration I had then for you and the pleasure I enjoyed in your company when we were convicts in the Central Jail have in no way diminished now, but have only increased with your elevation as President of this House. The honour, the prestige and the privileges of the members of this House are well assured and will be safe in your hands. Knowing you, as I do, I am sure you will adorn the Chair just in the same way as our friend Dr. U. Rama Rao did in this House and as Sir A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar, as a seasoned speaker, was good enough to portray. I may also assure the other members of the House that in you, they will find all that they would wish for and hope for and that in the discharge of your duties, you will display those traits of character which you have so ably displayed with honour in another sphere, which I am sure, are part and parcel of your life. I am sure, Sir, you will shine brighter and more nobly in the exalted position that you have come to occupy as President of this Council."

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* Mr. V. K. JOHN :—" Sir, I congratulate you on the honour conferred on you and express the hope that you will discharge your functions satisfactorily to all. Let me also hope that you will preserve the dignity of the House and keep the balance as between all parties in the House and also safeguard the rights and privileges of the members."

* Sri N. RANGA REDDI :—" Mr. President, Sir, please allow me to congratulate you on your unanimous election as President of this esteemed Assembly. I have a special claim to congratulate you for the reason that you hail from the Rayalaseema and I have also been elected to this House by a constituency which is included in the Rayalaseema. A grievance of the Rayalaseema has been for a long time that it has been neglected not only in the honours that they rightly deserve, but also in many other matters. I do not know, if I am justified in referring to all those things at the present juncture, but I only mention them to show that at least to the extent that one of the honours meant for another area of a geographical division has been bestowed upon you, a member from the Rayalaseema and it gives me very great satisfaction that that honour has been conferred upon you.

" Mr. President, Sir, as one of the previous speakers said, we were thrown in prison in Trichinopoly for a pretty long period and we have known one another, rather intimately. I have seen you from morning to evening; yours was a very simple life and I was wondering as to how grown-up people when they were put together in prison were able to adjust themselves. It is entirely a different thing in a hostel. In a hostel it is all right, but in a prison, when grown-up people are thrown together, those differences persist for a long time, and they continue afterwards too. But so far as our prison was concerned, it must be said to the credit of all inmates, that there were not many incidents and even if there were any, they were patched up.

" I submit, Sir, that your elevation to this exalted office is appreciated by one and all. Your previous training as a lawyer and your experience as a member of the Legislative Assembly will stand you in good stead. I may also submit that your experience of the administration of local boards for a long time has given you a unique opportunity of serving the people and of guiding the deliberations of deliberative bodies like this. Once again, Sir, let me congratulate you on the unique honour that has been conferred upon you."

* Sri H. M. JAGANNATHAM :—" Mr. President, Sir, I have great pleasure in associating myself with the tributes paid to you by the previous speakers. On behalf of the Scheduled Castes, of whom, I happen to be the only member in this House, I offer my hearty congratulations to you on your election to the Chair. There is no doubt that you will, in the discharge of your duties, act in consonance with the great parliamentary traditions of independence and impartiality, but I should like to request on behalf of the

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Scheduled Castes, that you may be pleased to stretch a point in favour of that community and allow some latitude in regard to speeches made on their behalf by a member of that community. There are many members to speak at length on behalf of other causes, but only one who can realize strongly and intimately the forlorn cause of the casteless caste and champion it with the necessary fervour and zeal. I hope you will have the kindness and generosity to give that cause as much facility as possible to express itself on the floor of this House.

" With these words, I once again congratulate you heartily and wish you a smooth and successful term of office."

* Mr. THEOBALD :—" Mr. President, Sir, allow me to congratulate you on your elevation to the Chair. Like the previous speaker, I form a small minority in the House, and I trust that if I have to make speeches, you will hear them kindly. Sir, it must be a most exhilarating experience, I feel, to be promoted to the Chair—one minute to be a member of a party, the next minute to be a member of all parties (laughter) and I feel, Sir, that you will make the change most satisfactorily. I personally trust that the safety of this House is assured in your strong hands and I am sure that you will guide it to prosperity and wisdom."

* Sri Rao Bahadur D. KRISHNAMURTHI :—" I also join in the chorus of congratulations from the different sections of the House on your elevation to the Presidentship of this House. This is a very exalted office and my esteemed friend Dr. Rama Rao has set up very high standards sitting in that chair. Fortunately for us, he is here with us now and I hope and trust that the future deliberations of this House will be guided by you consistent with dignity and impartiality and in the common interests of the various sections that inhabit this vast country.

" I congratulate you once again, Mr. President, on your election."

* Sri K. NATARAJAN :—" Mr. President, Sir, I have some claim to join the chorus of appreciation on your election as President. I must say that I had no opportunity of having a close contact with you before, but when I met you for the first time in the Trichinopoly jail, my impression was, that you are a deeply devoted and religious-minded gentleman. But the more I came in contact with you, the more I was struck by your other qualities and rather by your patriotism. Sir, your patriotism is not of an ordinary kind, it is not of the parochial or communal type. You have already established a high reputation as a lawyer and you have taken a great deal of interest in all movements for the amelioration of the masses. Your sacrifices have been as great as they have been genuine. Therefore it is not necessary for me to urge or join in the hope that others have expressed, that you will discharge your duties impartially and satisfactorily to all alike. And I am sure all parties will certainly co-operate with you wholeheartedly in the arduous duties entrusted to you.

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" I congratulate you once again, Mr. President, on your election."

* SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, I congratulate you on your elevation to this onerous office, without a contest. It gladdens my heart to see a young lawyer of Rayalaseema occupy the onerous position of President of the Council. I beg to submit, Sir, that there was no long past behind you to follow; nor do I think that there is a long future before this House. This House has lived for a short period of two and a half years and though this House has been said to be living, it has not been meeting till we came back the other day. I am afraid, this House may not live long, because the Constituent Assembly is going to meet soon and I have no doubt, that the Constituent Assembly will set up only a unicameral legislature for our Province. So this House may not live long, but as long as it lives, you will occupy the Chair. Till then, I hope you will carry on the traditions of this Legislature. We need not go into the traditions of other legislatures, because I do not think that we are equal to all of them. Ours is only a subordinate legislature of a subordinate Government. We cannot build up traditions or conventions, unless we become a free country and a free legislature is constituted. I hope, Sir, that even within the short life of this House you will follow up the proper traditions and carry this House along with you to a successful termination, until the Constituent Assembly is constituted."

* SRI RAMANATHAN CHETTIYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, ஆனரபிள் பிரசிடெண்டு டிரஷரி பெஞ்சி என்றும் நான்-டிரஷரி பெஞ்சி என்றும் சொன்னார்கள். இந்த ஸ்தானத்துக்கு வந்ததும் அவர் பொதுபார்ட்டி என்றும் ஒரு பார்ட்டியிலும் சேராமல் இருக்கவேணும் என்றும் சொன்னார்கள். நமக்குள் வித்தியாசம் எதற்கு. எல்லா மெம்பர்களும் ஒரே பார்ட்டியாக இருந்து தேசத்துக்கு நன்மை செய்யவேணும். தவிற கூடிய சீக்கிரம் நம் தேசம் நம் கைக்கு வர இருக்கும் சமயத்தில் வித்தியாசம் காட்டாமல் ஒத்துமையாக வேலை செய்யவேணும். அதற்கு தலைவருக்கு முருகன் பக்க பலமாக இருந்து நடத்துவார் என்று நம்புகிறேன்."

11-30 a.m. * MRS. MONA HENSMAN :—" Mr. President, Sir, I have heard it said that no cause is complete without all the elements joining in, and although women have been classed as lunatics in the politics of the past, I do feel that you, Sir, will realize, that we in this House are going to be active and we give you our hearty congratulations, because it is a very great honour to us to have the opportunity of working with all the members in this Council, though it be only for a short time, as some members have made Cassandra-like predictions about the period of the working of this Council. Well, however short or long the time may be, we would like to assure you that we do not want any favours; and we would like to take our stand along with everybody else. Everybody thinks that women do not know when to stop talking (laughter); so I would like to sit down now after stating that we wish to congratulate you most sincerely on your elevation to this exalted position."

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SRI A. GOVINDACHARLU :—"అధ్యక్షా ! తమకీ గౌరవము లభించి నందుల కానందించువారిలో నేనొకడను. తమ యెన్నిక రాయలసీమకు గౌరవమని నాతోటి సభ్యు లొకరు నుడివిరి. కాదు, కాదు, సమబుద్ధిగల న్యాయవాదు లగుటచే, యీ గౌరవము లభించినదని మరొకరనిరి. తమ యెన్నికకీ రెండును కారణములు కావని నా మనవి. తమ సద్గుణపుంజమే కారణము. కాంగ్రెసు పక్షము తమ్ము అధ్యక్షునిగా నిరూపించినది. కారాగృహమునందు, మన మందర మున్న కాలమున, తమ నమ్రభావము, న్యాయబుద్ధి కలిసి గొట్టుతనము యెల్లరకు సుబోధకమైనవి ఇందుచే కాంగ్రెసు పక్షము మిమ్ములను నిరూపించినను, వివిధపక్షములుగల, యీ సభ ఏకగ్రీవముగా మిమ్మెన్నుకొనుటలో మీ యోగ్యత విశదమగుచున్నది. ఏ మానవునికిగాని, తన జీవితకాలములోనే, తన యోగ్యత దేశసేవ, త్యాగము, సమర్థతలు, సోదర దేశీయులచే గుర్తింపబడుట దుర్భరము. అందు ముఖ్యముగ, యిటువంటి, విద్యావంతులతో కూడిన, యీ రాష్ట్రీయ సభచే గుర్తింపబడుట గమనీయము. ఈ యదృష్టము తమకే కలిగినది. ఇందులకు నా హృదయపూర్వకాభి నందనములు. నిష్పక్షపాతబుద్ధితో, మీరు ధర్మనిర్వహణ మొనరించుటకు సర్వేశ్వరుడు మీ కాయు రారోగ్యముల ప్రసాదించుగాక. వందేమాతరం"

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" Sir, I consider it a proud privilege and honour to associate myself with every sentiment that has fallen from every section of this House. You deserve all the praises that have been rightly showered on you; and I am confident that by virtue of your experience, traditions, intelligence and ability, you will never incur the displeasure of any section of this House. You have been reminded, Sir, by my hon. Friend Mr. Venkataswami Nayudu that you are a Kshatriya by birth. I remind you, Sir, that you were a convict in His Majesty's jails and therefore you are bound to be a democrat of the highest order. You have been told, Sir, that you belong to all sections of this House and that you are the custodian of the liberties of this House; but you must not forget one fact, viz., that you stand for the country, that you are of the people, that you are for the people, that you toil for the people and for the nation. With that as the guiding principle, I am absolutely certain that you will be able to discharge your duties as President of this august Assembly to the satisfaction of all the parties concerned."

ABDUL LATEEF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR spoke in Urdu, of which the following is the gist :—

" Sir, it is a matter for regret that speeches have not been made in Urdu which is the *lingua franca* of India or in Hindi which is regarded by the party in power as the common language of this country. We hope that the President will be impartial to the minorities, because he has now become one who is above all parties. It was said by a member that there should be only one party here and no Treasury benches. Unfortunately, the Treasury benches have not consulted the Opposition with regard to the election of the President. They have not therefore established a healthy convention in this respect as is being done in democratic countries. I earnestly hope that the President will keep the traditions of the House and discharge his duties impartially."

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* MR. K. O. ANTONY :—" Mr. President, Sir, I believe I am the youngest Member of this House, not exactly in age, but because I was elected only two days ago.

" I wish to join in the chorus of congratulations that have been showered on you, Sir, on your election to this very responsible position of President of the Council. The tradition of Indian Christians in this country is not to ask for favours and so, we shall not ask for any favours from you, as some of the hon. Members here have done. We have no doubt that judging from the very many tributes that have been paid to your qualities of head and heart, you will prove an ideal President of this House and that our interests are quite safe in your hands. I have great pleasure in associating myself with the sentiments expressed by hon. Members from all sections of the House."

* MR. PRESIDENT :—" Hon. Deputy President, Leader of the House and other hon. Members, both ladies and gentlemen, I consider it a memorable event in my life to have been selected to-day for occupying this exalted office which I do by your sufference.

" Mr. Muthuranga Mudaliyar said that this House had no past tradition and had a very short future also to look to; but I respectfully beg to differ from him and would like to tell him that though the Legislature in Madras is at present divided into two chambers, yet, there has been a Legislature in the Madras Province all along which has built up a great tradition for the Chair and that tradition enures for the benefit of both this House and the other House. If a tradition is built in this House, it reflects on the tradition of the Chair in the other House, as much as the tradition of that Chair reflects on the tradition of this Chair. It shall therefore be my endeavour in the future to rise to the high status which has been so assiduously built up by the previous Speakers either in the pre-reformed days or in the post-reform days. I know, gentlemen, a number of Presidents who occupied this office; I have also been a Member of the previous Assembly and I know how the Speaker there assiduously built up the tradition of the Assembly. Though I have not been a Member of this Council in the past, I have been present at the deliberations of this House, and I know how ably and how efficiently the previous occupant of this Chair, the Hon. Dr. U. Rama Rao, built up the traditions of this Chair and safeguarded the interests of each and every section of this House. I may almost say that I felt a little nervous to come in the wake of such traditions to occupy this office, and I always look forward to one support; and that support is that of the Almighty God to guide me aright and put me in the right path and to give me strength and courage to deserve the support and confidence of this House.

" Ladies and gentlemen, I tender you my heartiest thanks for the unanimity with which you have chosen me for this high office. As regards the duties which I have to attend to and as regards the various requests that have been made by one or two speakers and

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also as regards my qualifications which have been catalogued by a number of speakers, I wish to say a few words. I am sure you won't take the Hon. the Deputy President at his word; I am sure you won't take Dr. Rajan also at his word, and I am also sure you won't take Mr. Giri at his word or Mr. Ranga Reddi. Among my qualifications to hold this position the Deputy President referred to my love for music and athletics. I do not know if you consider them to be qualifications for my holding this place. Anyway I know what the Deputy President meant. He is a gem of a gentleman; and he himself said we were partners; so, you will take partner's words at a discount. He is such an excellent gentleman and he has such an excellent temper and so overflowing with kindness, that he is ready and willing to think that everybody else is like himself. So, I wish to inform you, that you need not take all that the hon. Members said at their face value.

" As regards members on this side (opposite side), when each one of the members on the right were recounting our experiences in jail, I was feeling in my heart of hearts how happier all of us would have been if members on this side also were in jail with us, and I had the pleasure of meeting some of them in jail. But I hope that no occasion will arise in the future which will make all of us go to jail. (Laughter.) All of us no doubt made supreme sacrifices for the cause of our country; but I am sure that if such an occasion arises hereafter, all sides of this House will vie with one another in trying to obtain independence which this county yearns for, which all sections in this country pray for, work for and are prepared to make sacrifices for. I may also say that though on this side I see a number of friends, I may say on the other side too, I have the privilege of claiming a good number of friends. Though Sir Lakshmanaswami Mudaliyar said he did not know me, I knew him quite well. I know also his great and respected brother. I know also the other gentleman sitting silently by his side, Mr. Narayanaswami Nayudu and also Mr. Gopalakrishnayya. I know all these friends are animated with the same idea of serving this country. I would like to mention to this House that this whole House is one institution and should work as one. You and I are component parts of one institution and we are going to work for a great future, to carve out a great place for this country; and I do not think I need ask you for the co-operation which is forthcoming in such abundant measure.

" The only thing which remains for me to do is to so conduct myself that I continue to deserve, continue to earn and continue to keep the confidence and respect that you have so amply showered upon me this day.

" I need not tell you, ladies and gentlemen, that you need have no fears at all about my impartiality or the way in which I would conduct the proceedings of this august Assembly. Mr. Jagannatham on behalf of the scheduled castes, said he would like to ask me for indulgence to that community. I was afraid he was going to ask for very many great boons; but the only boon he asked for

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was to allow him and his community members to speak as long as they liked. I have absolutely no objection to his doing so, and I hope the House also will have no objection. If that is all the request which other members also would make, my task will be made very light indeed. Gentlemen, let me assure you that I will endeavour to live up to the high traditions of this office, that I will endeavour to deserve the confidence of you all, that I will endeavour to be an architect along with you, in shaping the future of this great country and that I will endeavour to do my little bit of the great work that lies before us. Ladies and gentlemen, I thank you once again." (Applause.)

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, the 28th May 1946.

III.—PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

Notification appended to G.O. No. 1187, *Home, dated* 17*th April* 1946, *making certain amendments to Madras Motor Vehicles Rules,* 1940, *published with Home Department Notification No.* 357, *dated the* 29*th March* 1940, *as subsequently amended.*

TAMIL NADU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS